

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1900

To expand the use of competitive bidding under the Medicare Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 20, 1999

Mr. STARK (for himself and Mr. McDERMOTT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To expand the use of competitive bidding under the Medicare Program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Competitive
5 Bidding Expansion Act of 1999”.

6 SEC. 2. EXPANDING THE USE OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING

7 UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.

8 (a) EXPANSION OF CURRENT DEMONSTRATION

9 PROJECT AUTHORITY.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—On and after January 1,
2 2004, the Secretary of Health and Human Services
3 may exercise authority under section 4011 of the
4 Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (relating to medicare
5 prepaid competitive pricing demonstration project)
6 and under section 1847 of the Social Security Act
7 (42 U.S.C. 1395w–3), inserted by section 4319(a) of
8 the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, without regard
9 to—

10 (A) any limitation on the number of
11 projects, sites, or areas served, the population
12 served, or the period of authorization; and

13 (B) the need for any further monitoring or
14 reports under 4011(d) of the Balanced Budget
15 Act of 1997 or any termination otherwise re-
16 quired under section 1847(e) of the Social Se-
17 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–3(e)).

18 (2) USE OF FISCAL INTERMEDIARIES AND CAR-
19 RIERS.—In implementing paragraph (1), the Sec-
20 retary, to the extent feasible, shall provide for ad-
21 ministration of competitive bidding through the use
22 of local fiscal intermediaries and carriers and con-
23 sortia of contractors. Such projects may cover com-
24 bined payments under parts A and B of title XVIII
25 of the Social Security Act.

1 (3) PRICE AND QUALITY.—Any authority exer-
2 cised under this subsection shall take into account
3 both the price and quality of items and services pro-
4 vided.

5 (b) COVERAGE OF ADDITIONAL SERVICES.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the authority
7 provided under subsection (a), the Secretary of
8 Health and Human Services is authorized to provide
9 for payment under the medicare program on the
10 basis of competitive bidding for services not covered
11 under the demonstration projects referred to in sub-
12 section (a). Such projects may cover services such as
13 organ transplant services, lithotripsy services, diag-
14 nostic imaging, and non-emergency ambulance serv-
15 ices.

16 (2) EXTRA WEIGHT FOR QUALITY.—In con-
17 ducting demonstration projects under this sub-
18 section, the Secretary shall provide additional weight
19 when considering providers with a demonstrated
20 quality of services.

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